

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-33 are pending and stand rejected.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 5-9, 11, 16, 19, 21-23, 29 and 32-33 are amended.

No new matter is added by the claim amendments. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the original specification and, for example, in the original specification at the paragraph spanning pages 31 and 32.

Examiner Interview

An Examiner Interview was conducted between Applicant's Representative, Eric Berkowitz, and Examiner Lau on October 2, 2009. The Examiner is thanked for his efforts. During the Interview, Applicant's Representative argued the patentability of claim 32 and proposed an amendment to claim 1. The Examiner agreed that claim 32, without amendment, and proposed claim 1 overcome the current rejections. The Examiner suggested, however, that he would need to conduct a new search.

Rejection of Claims 1-9, 11-14, 16-17, 19-23 and 32-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the Office Action, at item 4, claims 1-9, 11-14, 16-17, 19-23 and 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Yamada et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0176095, hereafter referred to as Yamada).

Reconsideration of claims 1-9, 11-14, 16-17, 19-23 and 33 is respectfully requested.

Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to an address information setting method, and recites:

... presenting the selected home agent to the user;

receiving, from the user, an input which indicates a judgment by the user whether to switch to the selected home agent or not;

generating a home address from the prefix distributed by the selected home agent when receiving the judgment by the user to switch to the selected home agent ...

That is, a home agent is selected, the selected home agent is presented to the user and then a judgment by the user is received. The judgment indicates whether or not to switch to the selected home agent. Moreover, when receiving the judgment by the user to switch to the selected home agent, a home agent address is generated from the prefix distributed by the selected home agent.

Yamada Reference

Yamada discloses a home-agent change judgment conditions 1301. The home-agent change judgment conditions includes: (1) conditions for performing home-agent change judgment processing 1302; and (2) values (of the number of hops made with temporary home agents 1303, delay 1304 etc.) that are specified as conditions when a change is performed. The home-agent change judgment conditions 1301 are conditions that the user of mobile node sets in advance. (See Yamada at paragraph [0068].) In Yamada, mobile node 103 judges whether a temporary communication path between the home agent 105 and the mobile agent 103 currently satisfies the conditions under which the home-agent change is performed based on the change judgment conditions that have been set in advance in 1301. If the conditions are satisfied, the mobile node judges from the router advertisement whether a temporarily available home agent exists on the foreign network to which the mobile node 103 is currently attached. (See Yamada at paragraphs [0069]-[0070].) That is, Yamada teaches the automatic switching (based on preset conditions set by a user) to a selected home agent.

Yamada, however, is silent regarding "presenting the selected home agent to the user" and, more particularly, reception of "an input [from the user] which indicates a judgment by the user whether to switch to the selected home agent..., " (brackets added). This is because, (1) in Yamada, information after selection of the home agent is not presented to the user; and (2) the conditions for switching home agents are set in advance of the selection and, thus, Yamada does not contemplate any input from the user to judge whether to switch to the automatically selected home agent.

Accordingly, claim 1 is submitted to patentably distinguish over Yamada for at least the above set forth reasons.

Claim 9

Claim 9, which includes similar but not identical features to those of claim 1, is submitted to patentably distinguish over Yamada for at least similar reasons to those regarding claim 1.

Claims 2-8, 11-14, 16-17, 19-23 and 33

Claims 2-8, 11-14, 16-17, 19-23 and 33, which include all of the limitations of claim 1 or claim 9, are submitted to patentably distinguish over Yamada for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims.

Claim 32

The rejection of claim 32 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 32 has been rewritten in independent form including the subject matter of claim 1 prior to the current amendment. Claim 32 is directed to an address information setting method, and recites:

indicating in the list of routers whether each home agent from among the routers has capability to accommodate a mobile router; and

establishing a connection of the mobile router to another home agent that does not have the capability to accommodate the mobile router when the mobile router changes operation from those of a mobile router function to those of a mobile terminal function.

The Examiner contends that paragraphs [0042], [0053], [0055] and [0056] read on the above-identified features. The cited paragraphs, however, disclose that a home agent list 411 is a list of home agents each capable of providing a home agent function to a mobile node using a home agent flag. In Yamada, the mobile node selects a home agent based on the address and priority in the home agent list. That is, Yamada teaches that a home agent which cannot accommodate home agent functions is removed from the list and, thus, cannot be chosen by a mobile node in a switching operation. The cited portion of Yamada, however, is silent regarding the establishment of "a connection of the mobile router to another home agent that does not have the capability to accommodate (e.g., support) the mobile router when the mobile router changes operation from those of a mobile router function to those of a mobile terminal function," as required by claim 32. This is because, Yamada discloses a switch to another home

agent when the current home agent **DOES NOT** accommodate mobile routing. By contrast, claim 32 discloses a switch to another home agent when the current home agent **DOES** accommodate mobile routing.

Accordingly, claim 32 is submitted to patentably distinguish over Yamada for at least the above set forth reasons.

Rejection of Claims 10, 15, 18 and 24-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, at item 7, claims 10, 15, 18 and 24-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yamada in further view of Chang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,277,416, hereafter referred to as Chang).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 15, 18 and 24-31, which include all of the limitations of claim 9, are submitted to patentably distinguish over Yamada for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

The addition of Chang does not overcome the deficiencies of Yamada. This is because, Chang does not disclose or suggest:

... a display unit that presents the selected home agent to the user;

a user judgment acquiring unit for receiving, from the user, an input which indicates a judgment by the user whether to switch to the selected home agent ...

the information setting unit sets the address of the selected home agent and a home address which is generated from a prefix distributed by the selected home agent as information regarding the selected home agent when receiving the judgment by the user to switch to the selected home agent,

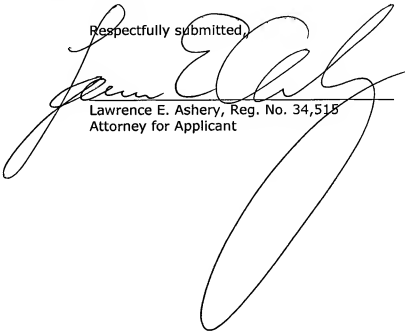
as required by claim 9. This is because, Chang, which discloses a handset 5 that includes various keys making up a keypad 47, is silent regarding selection of a home agent or user judgment as to whether to switch to a selected home agent.

Accordingly, claims 10, 15, 18 and 24-31 are submitted to patentably distinguish over Yamada in view of Chang for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

Conclusion

In view the claim amendments and remarks, Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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